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IN BRIEF

First record of Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus* and third record of Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* for South America

On 3 October 1976 I identified an adult Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus* amongst a flock of Laughing Gulls *Larus atricilla* on the foreshore at Pointe-a-Pierre on the west coast of Trinidad, and another adult *L. ridibundus* flew in soon afterwards to join the flock. The birds were also seen by R. P. French, D. C. Gilbert and R. A. Harding. These are the first records of *L. ridibundus* for South America (Meyer de Schauensee 1970 and pers. comm.). The species has been recorded in the Caribbean, particularly on Barbados, several times however, so it may occur more regularly in South America and has probably been overlooked.

In the same gull flock on the same day there was also a first-year Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* which was only the second record for Trinidad (see French 1973). The only other certain record of the species off South America is one on the Isla de Aves (15° 42' N, 83° 40' W) (Meyer de Schauensee pers. comm.).

Attention should clearly be paid to gull flocks wherever they occur throughout the world, since unexpected species alien to each area may frequently be missed. Wandering of birds in this family must surely be of widespread occurrence.

21 January 1978

David J. Fisher

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A hybrid *Hirundo rustica* x *Delichon urbica* in Zambia

On 17 December 1974 I caught a hybrid swallow while ringing hirundines at a roost near Choma in southern Zambia. It shows characters of both the European Swallow *Hirundo rustica* and House Martin *Delichon urbica*, and resembles closely one reported from southern England by Charlwood